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NOTES ON GEOGRAPHIC DISTRIBUTION

Filling gaps on the distribution of *Tricheilostoma salgueiroi* (Amaral, 1955) in the state of Rio de Janeiro, Brazil (Serpentes: Leptotyphlopidae)

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ABSTRACT: *Tricheilostoma salgueiroi* occurs in northeastern and southeastern Brazil, in the states of Bahia, Minas Gerais, Espírito Santo and Rio de Janeiro. We collected one adult male of this species at Lagoa de Cima, municipality of Campos dos Goytacazes, state of Rio de Janeiro. This new locality is ca. 40 km SE from the closest known locality of the species and corresponds to its easternmost locality in the state of Rio de Janeiro. We additionally correct a previous distribution report, placing the locality of Cambuci, Rio de Janeiro, under correct geographic coordinates.

The genus *Tricheilostoma* Jan, 1860 comprises nine snake species, often called threadsnakes or wormsnakes, distributed from Panama to southeastern Brazil (Adalsteinsson *et al*. 2009). *Tricheilostoma* is usually poorly represented in herpetological collections, due to their secretive habits (Passos *et al*. 2005). *Tricheilostoma salgueiroi* (Amaral, 1955) occurs on northeastern and southeastern Brazil, in the states of Bahia, Minas Gerais, Espírito Santo and Rio de Janeiro, being characterized by three supralabial scales, males with 200–226 middorsal and 17–24 subcaudal scales, and females with 217–233 middorsal and 16–20 subcaudal scales (Costa *et al.* 2009; Adalsteinsson *et al*. 2009). Geographic variation and the most recent distribution map for the species were published by Costa *et al.* (2009).

On 31 January 2011, we collected one adult male of *Tricheilostoma salgueiroi* (Museu Nacional do Rio de Janeiro, MNRJ 20088, SVL = 263 mm, 210 middorsal and 17 subcaudal scales; Figure 1) in the locality of *Lagoa de Cima* (21°48'31" S, 41°38'20" W; 150 m), within the municipality of Campos dos Goytacazes, state of Rio de Janeiro, southeastern Brazil (collection permit SISBIO/ ICM 21619-2). The snake was found already dead, on a rock in the middle of a rill, in Atlantic Rainforest. This new locality is *ca.* 40 km SE from the closest known locality for the species and corresponds to its easternmost locality in the state of Rio de Janeiro, filling a gap on the species' distribution (Figure 2).

FIGURE 1. Adult male of *Tricheilostoma salgueiroi* (MNRJ 20088, SVL= 263 mm), collected at Lagoa de Cima, municipality of Campos dos Goytacazes, Rio de Janeiro state, southeastern Brazil. Photo by C. H. de Oliveira Nogueira.

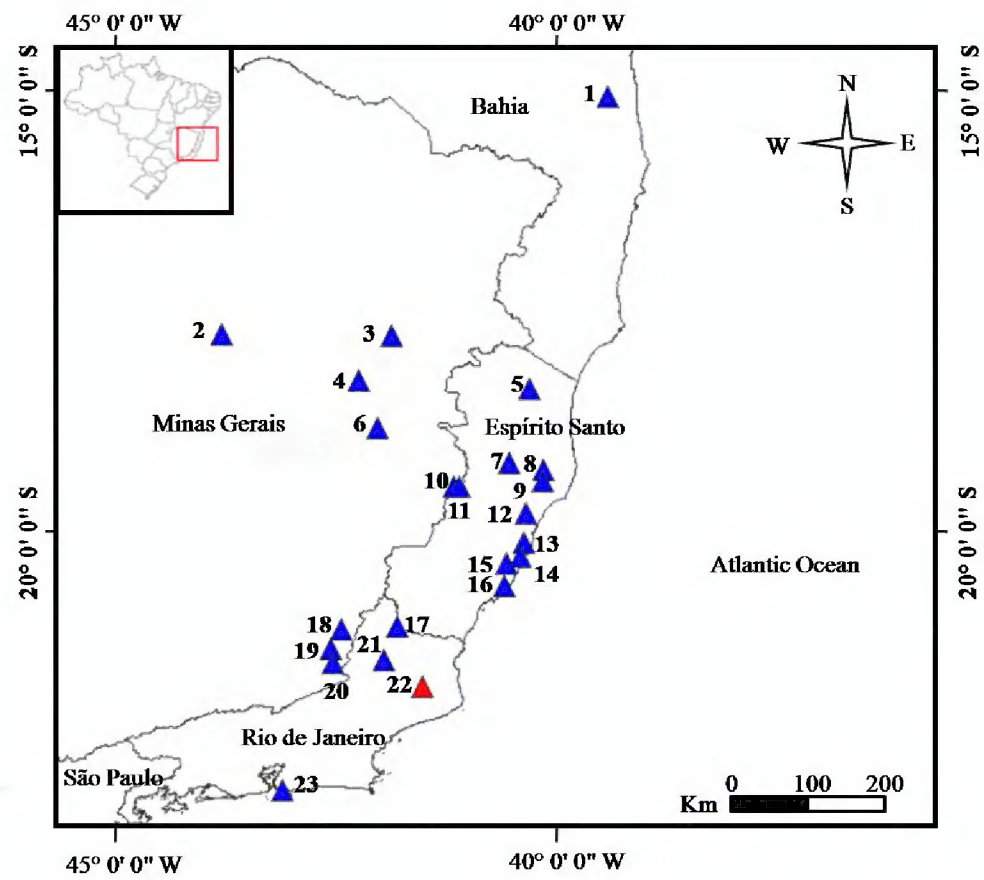

FIGURE 2. Distribution map for *Tricheilostoma salgueiroi*. Localities reported by Costa *et al.* (2009) are presented with blue triangles, while the new record herein reported is represented by a red triangle: (1) São José da Vitória, Bahia; (2) Parque Nacional das Sempre Vivas, Minas Gerais; (3) Poté, Minas Gerais; (4) São José da Safira, Minas Gerais; (5) Pinheiros, Espírito Santo; (6) Governador Valadares, Minas Gerais; (7) Governador Lindenberg, Espírito Santo; (8) Sooretama, Linhares, Espírito Santo; (9) Goytacazes, Linhares, Espírito Santo; (10) Aimorés, Minas Gerais; (11) Baixo Guandú, Espírito Santo (type locality); (12) Aracruz, Espírito Santo; (13) Campinho, Espírito Santo; (14) Parque Estadual da Fonte Grande, Vitória, Espírito Santo; (15) Fazenda Campo Verde, Viana, Espírito Santo; (16) Vale Encantado, Guarapari, Espírito Santo; (17) Bom Jesus do Itabapoana, Rio de Janeiro; (18) Muriaé, Minas Gerais; (19) Laranjal, Minas Gerais; (20) Recreio, Minas Gerais; (21) Cambuci, Rio de Janeiro; (22) Lagoa de Cima, Campos dos Goytacazes, Rio de Janeiro; (23) Itaipú, Niterói, Rio de Janeiro.

Tricheilostoma salgueiroi was previously recorded in the state of Rio de Janeiro, in the municipalities of Bom Jesus do Itabapoana, Cambuci, and Niterói (Costa *et al.* 2009). However, Costa *et al.* (2009) made a mistake when reporting Cambuci (21°29' S; 41°52' W) on their work, since the locality they cited is actually in the municipality of Niterói, resulting in an error on their species' map (R.R. Pinto, *pers. com.*). The corrected distribution map of *T. salgueroi*, including the new locality herein reported, is shown in Figure 2.

We think that studies related to the geographic distribution of Brazilian snakes are essential for the conservation of this group, especially considering that many species presents secretive habits, being known from few localities and poorly sampled.

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